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EXPLANATION OF POINTS IN CORN JUDGING

- 1 **UNIFORMITY. 10 POINTS.** The ten ears in the sample should possess similar characters and be true to the variety which they represent.
- 2 **SHAPE OF EAR. 10 POINTS.** The shape of the ear should conform to the variety type. The cylindrical or slightly tapering type is to be preferred as producing greatest uniformity of grain.
- 3 **PURITY OF EAR. (a), GRAIN 5 POINTS.** Color of grain should be true to the variety and free from mixture. For one or two mixed kernels make a cut of one-fourth point, for three or four a cut of one-half point. For six or more cut one point. Differences in shade of color as light or dark yellow, white or cream color must be scored according to breed characteristics.
(b), COB, 5 POINTS. A white ear with red cob or yellow ear with white cob should be marked zero. Such a mixture indicates lack of purity and a tendency to depart from the type.
- 4 **MARKET CONDITION.** Corn should be in good market and seed condition as indicated by freedom from dampness and mould, a clean bright color, plump and well developed grain firmly packed around a firm well-cured cob.
- 5 **TIPS. 5 POINTS.** The tip should not taper more sharply than the ear but should be of regular form, filled to the end with regular sized and regular shaped grains arranged in regular rows to the extremity. Flattened, divided or projecting naked tips are objectionable.
- 6 **BUTTS. 5 POINTS.** The rows should extend in regular order, over the butt, leaving a cup-shaped depression when the shank is removed. Flat or unfilled butts, swelled butts or those having irregular or spreading rows are objectionable and must be cut according to judgment.
- 7 **KERNEL. (a) UNIFORMITY OF, 10 POINTS.** The kernels should be uniform in shape and size. Not only should the kernels be uniform on each individual ear, but the kernels of each ear should be uniform with those of every other ear of the exhibit. They should be true to the variety type.
(b) SHAPE OF, 5 POINTS. The kernels should be wedge-shaped, so that their edges touch from tip to crown. The tip portion is rich in protein and oil, and hence of high feeding value. A large germ is important for vigorous growth and high quality.
- 8 **LENGTH OF EAR. 10 POINTS.** The length of the ear varies according to the variety type and the ideal of the breeder, but all the ears of the exhibit should be of the same length. Where no breed standard has been established a length of from nine to ten inches may be taken as a standard. Usually ears much over ten inches long are shallow grained and unfilled at butt and tip.
- 9 **CIRCUMFERENCE OF EAR. 5 POINTS.** The circumference varies with the variety, yet there should be a relation between the circumference and the length. If the circumference is very great, there is usually a large cob which makes the ear mature slowly, often retarding the curing until the ear has been injured by frost. Where there is no variety standard the commonly adopted scale is that the circumference should be to the length as 3 is to 4. The circumference should be taken one-third the distance from the butt.
10. **SPACE. (a) FURROWS BETWEEN THE TOPS OF THE ROWS. 5 POINTS.** The furrows between the rows should be of sufficient size to permit the kernels to dry out readily, but not so large as to lose in proportion of corn to cob. A convenient rule is for a furrow of one-thirty second of an inch no cut. For a furrow one-sixteenth of an inch a cut of one-half point. For more than one-sixteenth of an inch a cut of one point.
(b) SPACE BETWEEN THE TIPS OF KERNELS AT THE COB. 5 POINTS. This is highly objectionable as reducing the weight of grain and indicating low vitality and feeding value.
- 11 **PROPORTION OF GRAIN TO COB. 10 POINTS.** To determine the proportion of grain, weigh every alternate ear of the exhibit, shell off the grain and divide the weight of the ears into the weight of the grain. The result will give the per cent. of grain. As in case of length and circumference there are variety standards for proportion of grain. Where there is no variety standard the proportion should not be less than 86 per cent. In scoring the proportion make a cut of one-half point for every per cent. below the standard.
The proportion of grain depends on the size of the cob, the length and shape of grain, maturity and dryness of ears.